

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for fabricating a direct dental restoration having the color of a natural tooth, comprising:

matching the value shade of a natural tooth to be restored to a colorless enamel value restorative material;

preparing the tooth for restoration;

matching the shade of a dentin layer of the tooth to a shaded dentin restorative material;

applying the matched dentin restorative material to the tooth to be restored; and

applying, over the dentin restorative material, the matched colorless enamel value restorative material to the tooth to be restored.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein applying comprises placing a thin coating of restorative material on the object to be applied and polymerizing the restorative material.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the restorative material is polymerized by light-curing.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein preparing the tooth for restoration comprises removing a portion of the enamel layer and a portion of a dentin layer of the tooth.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein preparing the tooth for restoration comprises reshaping the tooth for a cosmetic restoration.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a bonding agent to the exposed dentin and enamel when preparing the tooth for restoration to enhance the bonding of the composite restorative material.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising finishing and polishing the restored tooth.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein finishing comprises at least one of shaping and contouring the restoration.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the value shade of the colorless enamel value material is a low, medium, or high value.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the colorless enamel value restorative material includes a polymerizable resin, filler, and catalyst.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the dentin restorative material includes a polymerizable resin, filler, and catalyst.

12. A method for fabricating a direct dental restoration having the color of a natural tooth, comprising:

cleaning the tooth and matching the value shade of the tooth to be restored to a colorless enamel value restorative material;

preparing the tooth for restoration by at least one of removing decayed/damaged enamel and dentin and reshaping the tooth for cosmetic restoration;

matching the shade of a dentin layer of the tooth to a shaded dentin restorative material;

applying a bonding agent to the prepared area;

applying a flowable composite prior to applying the colored dentin material, in order to fill in any voids or irregularities that may exist in the floor of the restoration area;

applying the matched dentin restorative material to the tooth to be restored;

applying, over the dentin restorative material, the matched colorless enamel value restorative material to the tooth to be restored;
applying special effects, including staining or tinting materials or white or blue shade to the restoration prior to the final restorative layer;
applying a translucent material to the external surface of the restoration;
finishing by shaping or contouring the restoration; and
polishing the restoration.

13. A colorless enamel restorative material having no added pigment and a low value shade; a medium value shade; or a high value shade. ✓

14. The product of claim 13, wherein the low value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 63.

15. The product of claim 13, wherein the medium value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 73.

16. The product of claim 13, wherein the high value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 76.

17. A cured dental composite restoration comprising:
a highly chromatic shaded dentin restorative material and a colorless enamel restorative material having no added pigment and a low value shade; a medium value shade; or a high value shade. ✓

18. The product of claim 17, wherein the low value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 63.

19. The product of claim 17, wherein the medium value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 73.

20. The product of claim 17, wherein the high value shade has a CIELAB co-ordinate of 76.